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## Please delete the Abstract and insert the following:

--A digital rights management (DRM) system operates on a computing device when a user requests that a protected piece of digital content be rendered by the computer device in a particular manner. The DRM system has a license store, a license evaluator, and a state store. The license store stores digital licenses on the computing device. The license evaluator determines whether any licenses stored in the license store correspond to the requested digital content and whether any such corresponding licenses are valid, reviews license rules in each such valid license, and determining based on such reviewed license rules whether such license enables the requesting user to render the requested digital content in the manner sought. The state store maintains state information corresponding to each license in the license store, where the state information is created and updated by the license evaluator as necessary.--

## Remarks

Claims 106-163 are pending in the present application as preliminarily amended.

Claims 1-105 have been canceled and claims 106-163 have been added. The title has been canceled and replaced with a new title corresponding to claims 106-163, the specification has been amended to include a new "Cross-Reference to Related Applications" section, and the abstract has been canceled and replaced with a new abstract corresponding to claims 106-163.

Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added to the application by the Preliminary Amendment.

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Applicants respectfully solicit early examination of the above-identified application, and a Notice of Allowability in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven H. Meyer

Registration No. 37,189

Date: January 13, 2000

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